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**U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Kremmling Field Office
P.O. Box 68
Kremmling, CO 80459**

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

NUMBER: DOI-BLM-CO-120-2009-0029-CX

PROJECT NAME: Renewal of Livestock Grazing Leases # 051937 for Carolyn Durand on Allotment 07259 (Durand) and # 051909 for M. Gilbert and Ialene Engen on Allotment 07252 (Engen)

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: Kremmling Field Office (KFO) administered land includes all or part of the following:

Allotment 07259 (Durand)
T.11N, R.76W, Sec. 18
T.11N, R.77W, Sec. 1

Allotment 07252 (Engen)
T.12N, R.78W, Sec. 19, 20, 29-32

APPLICANTS: Carolyn Durand and M. Gilbert and Ialene Engen

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED ACTION: The Proposed Action would renew livestock grazing leases # 051937 for Carolyn Durand on Allotment 07259 (Durand) and # 051909 for M. Gilbert and Ialene Engen on Allotment 07252 (Engen). These leases expire on February 28, 2009. The lessees have applied to have their leases renewed. Implementation of the Proposed Action would renew these leases for ten years beginning on March 1, 2009. The leases would be renewed with no changes to the number or kind of livestock, season of use, or amount of authorized grazing preference expressed in AUMs*

* AUM = animal unit month = the amount of forage needed to support one cow and her calf for one month.

The renewed leases would authorize livestock grazing to the following extent:

Allotment	Livestock Number	Kind	Season of Use	Percent Public Land	AUMs
07259 (Durand)	8	Cattle	05/20 – 07/04	100	12
07252 (Engen)	135	Cattle	06/01 – 09/30	41	221

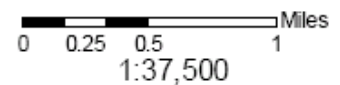
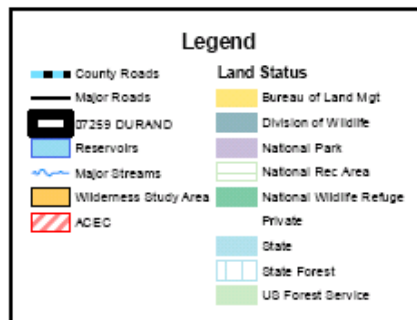
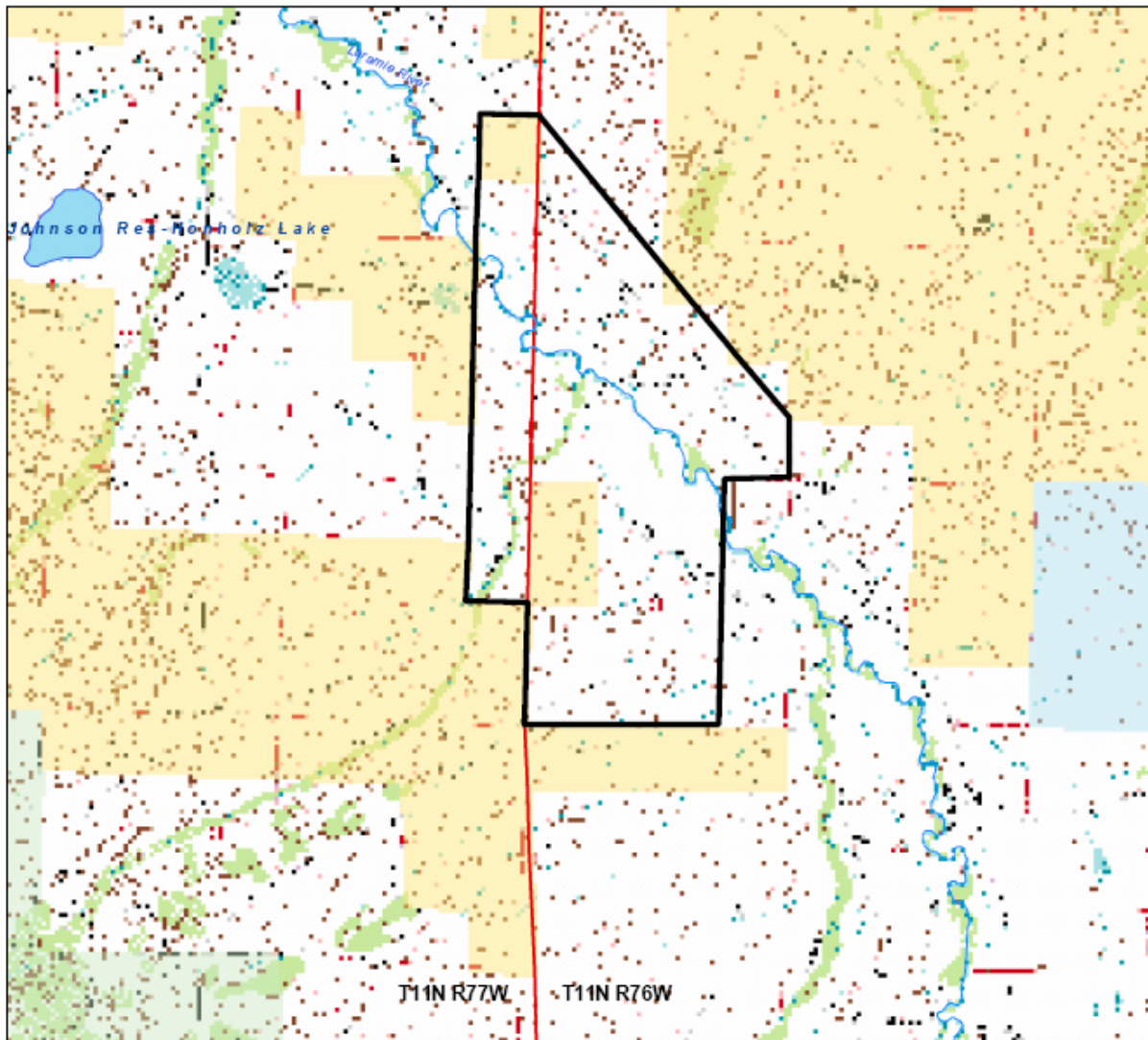
Allotment 07259 (Engen) is a custodial category “C” allotment with only 120 acres of BLM administered land. This allotment does not require assessment for compliance with the Standards for Public Land Health in Colorado (Standards). However, the allotment was monitored in 2008 and no issues or concerns were identified.

Allotment 07252 (Engen) is an improve category “I” allotment with a 6 pasture rotation grazing system. The allotment was assessed for compliance with the Standards by an interdisciplinary (ID) team from the Kremmling Field Office on July 25, 2006. The ID team determined the allotment is in compliance with all of the Standards.

Design Features of Proposed Action:



07259 DURAND

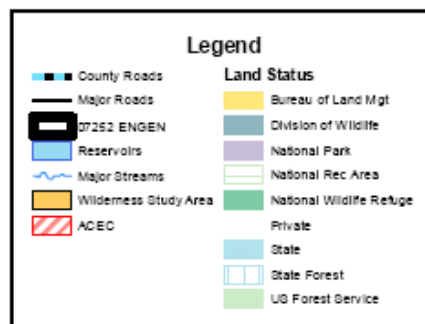
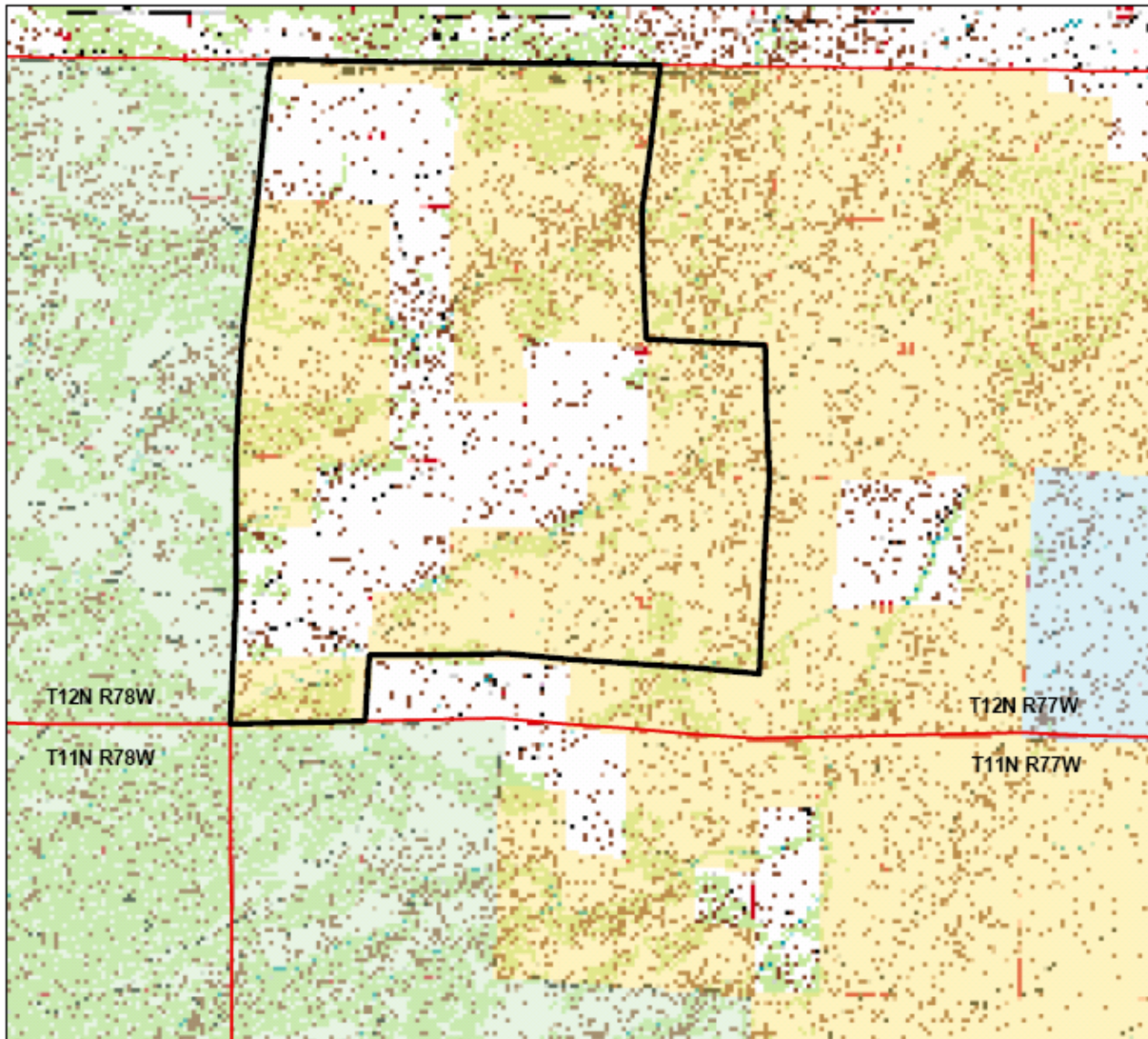


No Warranty is made by the Bureau of Land Management as to the Accuracy, Reliability, or Completeness of this Data for Individual Use or Aggregate Use with Other Data.

Maps: Crazy Mountain, Old Roach BLM, Kremmling FO 10/31/2008



07252 ENGEN



0 0.2 0.4 0.8 Miles

1:35,038

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Maps: Old Roach
BLM, Kremmling FO 10/31/2008

PLAN CONFORMANCE REVIEW: The Proposed Action is subject to and has been reviewed for conformance with the following plan (43 CFR 1610.5, BLM 1617.3):

Name of Plan: Kremmling Resource Management Plan (RMP), Record of Decision (ROD)

Date Approved: December 19, 1984; Updated February 1999

Decision Number/Page: Livestock Grazing: pages 6 and 8, as revised

Decision Language: Objectives of the RMP/ROD include allocation of a base level of livestock forage and maintaining or improving forage production and condition in areas where livestock grazing is a priority or is compatible with the land use priority. The RMP designated allotment 07259 (Durand) with a livestock grazing priority and allotment 07252 (Engen) with livestock and water priorities. Livestock grazing is compatible with those priorities.

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION REVIEW: The Proposed Action qualifies as a categorical exclusion under 516 DM 11, Number: (D) (11) (a) (1-3), “(1) the same kind of livestock is grazed, (2) the active use previously authorized is not exceeded, and (3) grazing does not occur more than 14 days earlier or later than as specified on the previous permit/lease.” None of the following extraordinary circumstances in 516 DM 2, Appendix 2, apply.

Extraordinary Circumstances	Yes	No
2.1 Have significant impacts on public health or safety		X
2.2 Have significant impacts on such natural resources and unique geographic characteristics as historic or cultural resources; park, recreation or refuge lands; wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principal drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands (Executive Order 11990); floodplains (Executive Order 11988); national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas.		X
2.3 Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources [NEPA section 102(2)(E)].		X
2.4 Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks.		X
2.5 Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects.		X
2.6 Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects.		X
2.7 Have significant impacts on properties listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of historic Places as determined by either the bureau or office.		X
2.8 Have significant impacts on species listed, or proposed to be		X

listed, on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have significant impacts on designated Critical Habitat for these species.		
2.9 Violate a Federal Law, or a State, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment.		X
2.10 Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (Executive Order 12898).		X
2.11 Limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites on Federal lands by Indian religious practitioners or significantly adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites (Executive Order 13007).		X
2.12 Contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area or actions that may promote the introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of such species (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act and Executive Order 13112).		X

INTERDISCIPLINARY REVIEW:

Name	Title	Area of Responsibility	Date Review Completed
Bill B. Wyatt	Archaeologist	Cultural Resources/Tribal Consultation	1/20/2009
Megan McGuire	Wildlife Biologist	Wildlife, T/E, and Sensitive Species	1/21/09
Paula Belcher	Hydrologist	Soil, Water, Air, and Riparian	2/25/09
Frank Rupp	Paleontologist	Paleontology	3/2/09

REMARKS:

Cultural Resources: Past actions have resulted in a cultural resource inventory to determine if those actions would cause potential adverse affects to known and unknown cultural resources sites from livestock grazing, motorized travel, and recreational use. When project undertakings are identified a cultural resource inventory would be conducted to determine if sites are present and their eligibility, project effects, and mitigation requirements if necessary.

Native American Religious Concerns: Consultation was completed for the original allotment renewal. Future undertakings would require tribal consultation to identify traditional cultural properties.

Threatened and Endangered Species: The proposed permit renewal would not impact Endangered, Threatened, or Sensitive Species.

Paleontology: No impacts to fossil resources from renewing permit, or the no action alternative. Proposed ground disturbing projects will be reviewed on a project by project basis to determine the need for paleontological inventory.

COMPLIANCE PLAN: Compliance with the renewed livestock grazing permit and its associated terms and conditions would be accomplished through the Kremmling Field Office Range Management Program. Livestock grazing would be monitored by the range staff and other area personnel, as appropriate, to ensure compliance. The Kremmling Field Office Range Monitoring Plan would be used to schedule periodic utilization checks, collect trend data, and evaluate allotment condition. When activity plans have been developed covering an allotment, monitoring methods and schedules included in them would be applied to the allotment. Changes would be made to the permit, based on monitoring, when changes are determined necessary to protect land health.

NAME OF PREPARER: Richard Johnson

NAME OF ENVIRONMENTAL COORDINATOR: Susan Cassel

DATE: 3/3/09

ATTACHMENTS:

- 1) Livestock grazing leases with standard terms and conditions for # 051937 for Carolyn Durand and # 051909 for M. Gilbert and Ialene Engen

DECISION AND RATIONALE: I have reviewed this CER and have decided to implement the proposed action.

This action is listed in the Department Manual as an action that may be categorically excluded. I have evaluated the action relative to the 12 criteria listed above and have determined that it does not represent an extraordinary circumstance and is, therefore, categorically excluded from further environmental analysis.

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL: /s/ Peter McFadden

DATE SIGNED: 3/3/09